



Flower Care
www.BloomsByTheBox.com

Enclosed are your beautiful Blooms by the Box fresh cut flowers. In order to be shipped directly to you from our growers, they have been without water in a state of "suspended animation" for many hours! **DO NOT PANIC!** You are receiving them in the same way that a florist would, and to bring your flowers to their peak health and beauty they must be re-hydrated immediately!

Please read and follow all of our directions carefully to achieve maximum longevity and satisfaction.

1. Prepare clean vases or containers and clean, sharp, utensils such as clippers, shears or knives. Never use ordinary household scissors. Using scissors will crush the stems and prevent proper hydration.
2. Prepare lukewarm water (100° - 110° F). Floral preservative is optional. If your tap water is very soft or very hard, use Spring water.
3. **All** flower stems must be re-cut to enable absorption of water. If possible, cut under water or under running water. Cut at least one inch from the bottom of the stem at a 45 degree angle. Remove all foliage that will be under the vase or container water line to delay bacteria growth.
4. Immediately place the flowers into the prepared water. Do not overcrowd! Store them at room temperature and away from direct sunlight to let them drink and recover. This process may take up to 12 hours. If any stems still appear wilted, re-cut following the above directions.
5. **If** you want to **slow** the re-hydrating & blooming process for a day or two, use cool water and store flowers in a cool, dark place (Do not store in a refrigerator).
6. If you are using floral foam material, thoroughly saturate it in water and floral preservative. Place your vase or arrangement away from heat, drafts, and direct sunlight. Do not let your arrangement dry out!
7. Change the water every two to three days or when it becomes cloudy. It is best to clean the vase and re-cut the stems.

Some flowers require special attention! Please read the following if you have ordered any flowers with special needs.

Tulips, Hyacinths, Iris, Daffodils: Place them in cool water. Do not use floral preservatives with **Tulips**. Be careful not to damage the tip of an **Iris**. **Daffodils** will prevent other flowers from absorbing water properly. Condition them alone for at least six hours and do not re-cut their stems before adding more flowers, or enjoy them by themselves!

Roses: If after following the directions above a rose still appears wilted, there is probably air trapped in the stem. Submerge it in water and re-cut. Leave it submerged for up to 60 minutes. Wholesale roses may have unsightly petals around their edges. They are left on to protect the inner flower! You may carefully remove any unsightly petals to improve the appearance of your roses. Roses may be left in their grower packaging during the re-hydration process as long as each stem has been re-cut.

Gerber Daisies: It is critical that Gerber Daisy stems be cut with a clean, sharp utensil on an angle, several [at least 6] inches from the bottom of the stem. If this process is not followed, they will not re-hydrate!

Lilies: To enhance the life of your lilies, carefully remove the pollen stamens when the petals open. The pollen will stain fabrics!

Bells of Ireland: These flowers may appear limp upon arrival, but with the proper hydration will recover beautifully. The re-hydration process may take up to 24 hours.

Dendrobium Orchids: If they appear wilted upon arrival, submerge the entire spray in cool tap water for 10-15 minutes.

Hydrangea: Cut Hydrangea stems between the stem nodes at an angle with floral shears. Cut an additional 1" slice up through the bottom of each stem. (The bottom inch of each stem will then be cut in half). Immediately place in a vase of warm water. If Hydrangea are wilted after several hours or days, they may be unable to take up water. Re-cut stems and place stems in hot water for 30 seconds. Immediately place them into room temperature water. The process to revive them may take several hours.